

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
DALLAS DIVISION**

ICON LASER SOLUTIONS, LLC,

Plaintiff,

v.

**EXPRESS FASHION OPERATIONS,
LLC,**

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 3:15-cv-3313

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

ORIGINAL COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT

Plaintiff ICON LASER SOLUTIONS, LLC files this Original Complaint against Defendant EXPRESS FASHION OPERATIONS, LLC, alleging as follows:

I. THE PARTIES

1. Plaintiff ICON LASER SOLUTIONS, LLC (“Plaintiff” or “Icon Laser”) is a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the State of Texas, with a principal place of business in Dallas, Texas.

2. Upon information and belief, EXPRESS FASHION OPERATIONS, LLC (“Defendant” or “Express”) is a Delaware limited liability corporation with a principal place of business in Columbus, Ohio. Defendant may be served with process by serving its Registered Agent: Corporation Trust Company, Corporation Trust Center, 1209 N. Orange St., Wilmington, DE 19801.

II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

3. This is an action for infringement of a United States patent. Federal question jurisdiction over such action is conferred on this Court under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).

4. Upon information and belief, Defendant has had minimum contacts with the Dallas Division of the Northern District of Texas such that this venue is fair and reasonable. Defendant has committed such purposeful acts or transactions in this district that it reasonably should know and expect that it could be hauled into this Court as a consequence of such activity. Upon information and belief, Defendant has transacted and, at the time of the filing of this Complaint, is transacting business within the Dallas Division of the Northern District of Texas.

5. For these reasons, personal jurisdiction exists and venue is proper in this Court under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b) and (c) and 28 U.S.C. § 1400(b).

III. PATENT INFRINGEMENT

6. On October 22, 1996, United States Patent No. 5,567,207 was duly and legally issued for a “Method for Marking and Fading Textiles with Lasers.” A true and correct copy of the ‘207 Patent is attached hereto as Exhibit “A” and made a part hereof. The ‘207 Patent is referred to as the “Patent-in-Suit.”

7. By way of assignment, Plaintiff owns all substantial rights in and to the Patent-in-Suit, including the exclusive rights to enforce the Patent against infringers and to collect damages for all relevant times, and including the right to prosecute this action.

8. As it pertains to this lawsuit, the '207 Patent, generally speaking, relates to the use of a laser to color fade and selectively alter textile materials in an environmentally friendly manner.

9. On information and belief, Defendant, without authority, consent, right, or license, and in direct infringement of the '207 Patent, makes, has made, uses, has used, offers for sale, has offered for sale, sells, has sold, imports, or has imported systems or products that directly infringe one or more claims of the '207 Patent. By way of example only, Defendant makes, uses, sells, or offers for sale products or services by and through its various brands that are made using a method or methods that infringe at least independent claims 1, 2, 3, 22, and 23, including but not limited to Express Barley Boot Stella Low Rise Women's Jeans and Express Women's Legging Mid Rise Jeans, that directly infringe at least claims 1, 2, 3, 22, and 23 of the '207 Patent.

10. Defendant has had knowledge of the existence of the Patent-in-Suit and had knowledge of its infringement, both direct and indirect, at least as early as the date on which it was served with this Complaint.

V. JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff hereby requests a trial by jury pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

VI. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that the Court find in its favor and against Defendant, and that the Court grant Plaintiff the following relief:

- a. Judgment that one or more claims of the Patent-in-Suit have been directly infringed, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, by Defendant; or judgment that one or more claims of the Patent-in-Suit have been directly

infringed by others and indirectly infringed by Defendant, to the extent Defendant contributed to or induced infringement by others;

- b. Judgment that Defendant account for and compensate Plaintiff for all damages suffered by and costs incurred by Plaintiff because of Defendant's infringing activities and other conduct complained of herein;
- c. That Plaintiff be granted pre-judgment and post-judgment interest on the damages caused by Defendant's infringing activities and other conduct complained of herein;
- d. That the Court declare this an exceptional case and award Plaintiff its reasonable attorney's fees and costs in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 285, to the extent permitted by law and equity; and
- e. That Plaintiff be granted such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper under the circumstances.

Dated: October 14, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Edward R. Nelson, III
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